Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day

Knowledge at throw-away prices

by Sabah Chowdhury

Abdul Kader arranging old books and magazines at

Second-hand bookseller Md Abdul Kader deplore the day VCRs came to Bangladesh.

"Because of their onslaught, people prefer watching films to reading," says Abdul Kader who established his shop in the Purana Paltan-Bijoynagar area because he wanted to work in an

atmosphere in which educated people would be customers.

That was before Independence, Today poets such as Shamsur Rahman Balal Choudhury are customers - but "business is dull

compared with

seven or eight years

Nearby bookseller Md. Alamgir also feels that videos have spoiled the reading habit among teenagers, but he is more confident about the business.

his shop. He sells Tk 200-300 worth of books and comics a day. The big sellers are Sydney Sheldon, Harold Robbins, Agatha Christie and Danielle Steele and the big buyers are "the middle-class, retired people, journalists."

Belal Choudhury must be an avid book-buyer because he also visits Alamgir's shop, as does astrologer Mahajatak for books on palmistry.

Sadly for such a book enthusiast, Akamgirwas unable to complete his studies, but hopes that one day he will be able to do so by handing the business to one of his brothers.

If he does, he will probably visit shops like that run in Nilkhet by Ali Akbar who does not hide his

contempt for a system which fails to provide students with textbooks at

reasonable prices. He points out that there is something wrong when more and more students have to buy second-hand books instead of new editions which can cost the equivalent of a week's pay for a mid-level bureau-

Students are his best source of stock as well as being his main customers, and they often sell him

out-of-print books which continue to be useful to All these shops provide a service by making Alam. DU Unit President Go-

books available at affordable prices and thus helping keep the reading habit alive in Dhaka. But many also purvey second-hand and often out-ofdate information for an education system which does not always generate first-rate learning.

-Star photo

Emergency steps taken to avoid Gulf war fallout

In view of the prevailing war situation in the Gulf area, the Government has decided to take some emergency measures to avoid any untoward situation and to enforce austrerity at all possible spheres, reports BSS.

The measures include: Formation of an Advisory Committee for emergency management to take necessary remedial steps.

Setting up of a Monitoring Cell in the Ministry of Commerce to watch the price position of essential commodities and to take necessary steps against hoarding of any commodity with the help of rele-

Poetry festival in city

Adviser for Culture Prof lajuddin Ahmed Saturday said the present democratic movement should be consolidated and carried forward for restoring democracy in the country, reports BSS.

Prof lajuddin was speaking at a "poetry festival" organised by Jatiya Kabita Parisad, Dhaka

College Branch at Dhaka College premises here. Convener combined Cultural Jote Faiz Ahmed, Principal Dhaka College Nazimuddin Ahmed, Poet Mohadev Shaha, Mohan Raihan, Shahadat Hossain, Mahabubul Huq and Zakir Hossain spoke on the occasion.

38 Mother

42 Quoted

49 Fee

40 Repetition

45 Collection of

47 Non-commis-

50 Two-wheeled

54 Greek letter

carriages 52 Painful

55 Negative

56 Corrupts;

peryerts

61 Country of

America

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65 Kind of

66 Compass

67 Forerunner

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59 Roman gods

sioned Army

ACROSS

1 Dwelling:

4 Math term

6 European

11 Tradesmar

abundanti

15 Conjunction

18 Neon symbol

19 Supposing

22 Dispatched

eration

28 Stalemate

31 Luncheon

33 Grad-to-be

34 Take one's (dawdle)

Story"

29 Dropsy

24 Learning

26 Reverb-

13 Supplied

16 Studio

21 Hosiery

Closure of petrol pumps on Friday and prohibit sale of any petroleum products on that

Transportation of goods belonging to the public sector, should be done through railway instead of road transport as far as possible.

Official visits by the Government officials inside the country should be done by railway instead of using government vehicles where railway facility

All shops and commercial institutions except hotels. restaurants, food shops, medicine shops, wholesale markets for foodstuff and market for perishable goods should be closed after 8:00

Use of lights

Use of street lights should be kept at minimum and the lights at one side of the street should be put after 10 p.m. Unnecessary lights at all public places should not be used.

There should be no illumination at any public or private functions or ceremonies.

The provisions of the Guest Control Order should be strictly applied by the relevant authority to control the number of guests in marriage and other functions.

The earlier decision to bring down the energy consumption in Government offices should be strictly followed.

The Government expects full co-operation from all quarters to implement the above deci-

Seek blessings of God to end war: Hasina

Eight-party Alliance leader Sheikh Hasina Saturday called upon the devotees, attending Biswa ljtema at Tongi. to seck the blessings of the Almighty for putting an end to the Gulf war, which poses a threat to mankind particularly the Muslim ummah, reports BSS.

"The Almighty Allah will listen to the cry of the lakhs of Muslims, assembled at the bank of the River Turag. to bless the nation with progress and prosperity and have a democratically elected people's government," she added.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

METTLE EFFORT

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RINSESEASTER

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2 Punctuation

3 Tantalum

4 Fondles

5 Actress

Dunne

6 Treats as

United Feature Syndicate

unimportant

7 Pedal digit

9 Paid notice

10 Wimbledon

12 Note of scale

8 Paddles

14 Hinder

23 Latin

24 French article

25 Arabian

27 Auricular 30 John of "Die Hard 2" 32 Redact

35 Annual wind

38 Johnson of

41 God of love

48 TV's Steven

1 Bridge 53 Grafted: heraldry

57 Poem 58 Therefore

60 Those

62 Nickel symbol

64 Behold

holding

NBA's Lakers

37 Kind of

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43 Avoids 44 Deciliter:

17 Intertwine

20 Violin part

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

Awami League chief and In a message issued in Dhaka she prayed for the grand success of the litema. and said the nation feels proud that the second biggest congregation of Muslim ummah after the holy Haj is being held in Bangladesh in an atmosphere filled with religious

> In this connection she said mankind, especially the Mus-

lim world was already in the grip of a colossal devastation with the outbreak of the Gulf war. The prayer of the devotees would be heard by the Almighty to help the concerned parties find a peaceful and diplomatic solution to the Gulf crisis," she observed.

The Awami League chief said. "Our hearts become overwhelmed with sorrow when we see that a handful of people, are leading a lavish and luxurious life at the cost of the

larger section of society, who are languishing in hunger and poverty."

She hoped that the nation by the grace of Almighty would be able to establish a society free from exploitation where justice would be assured.

She wished good health and long life of the devotees, at-

Zia's birthday held Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal

(JCD) Saturday organised a photography exhibition to observe the 55he birth anniversary of slain President Ziaur Rahman at the Arts Faculty Building of Dhaka University, reports UNB.

Photo show on

More than 200 photographs, paper clippings on the late leaders life during his rule were displayed in the ex-

As part of the day's programme, JCD leaders and ac tivists visited the mazar of Zia and placed floral wreaths fol lowed by a colourful procession in the city.

Release of Kader Siddiky demanded

The pro-Awami League Chhatra League (A-A) Saturday held a rally in front of the Madhur Canteen of the Dhaka University demanding imme diate release of freedom fighter Kader Siddiky, reports

The protest rally was addressed by its President Shah lam Mostafa Sujan and General Secretary Kamruzzaman

They said there was a deeprooted conspiracy behind the arrest of Siddiky who was always vocal in condemning the killing of Bangabandhu.

They expressed deep concern over the free movement of self confessed killers of Bangabandhu and demanded arrest of Colonel Faruq. Colonel Rashid and Major

Information Secy meets OCAB members

The Information Secretary Saturday held a meeting with the members of the Overseas Correspondents Association of Bangladesh (OCAB), reports During the meeting at the

Information Ministry's conference room Secretary A. Z. M. Nasiruddin listened to various professional problems of the correspondents who work for foreign media. Nasiruddin said his ministry

will try to remove the prob-

The OCAB has more than 50 members, representing news agencies, radios, newspapers and magazines.

APSU for probe into **BSC** affairs

By Staff Correspondent

The All-Party Student Unity (APSU) has demanded reshifting of the Commercial Department of Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC) to

APSU in an emergency special meeting on Friday at Dhaka University Central Students Union (DUCSU) office also demanded inquiry into the plundering of BSC and trial of its corrupt officials and Water Transport Ministry who, were directly involved in the ousted President Ershad's misdeeds, savs a Press release.

The APSU leaders said that the BSC which made a neat profit of Taka 20 crore during 1971 to 1984, has suffered a loss of Tk.30 crore during

1984 to 1985 as a result of

shifting the corporation's head office to Chittagong. They alleged after the shift-

ing of BSC's Commercial Department to Chittagong in August-September '90 the private owned and foreign multinational shipping companies have established a monopoly over the country's shipping bussiness taking advantage of the absence of any office of the **National Shipping Corporation** in Dhaka.

APSU won't allow JP to take part in polls

The All-Party Student Unity (APSU) on Saturday urged the people to excommunicate and punish ousted President Ershad's associates equally responsible for all the ills plaguing the country, reports UNB.

The call came at a rally held at the foot of Aparajeya Bangla on the Dhaka University campus at the start of APSU's 10day programme including resistance against Jatiya Party bid for political rehabilitation. The programme was announced on January 15.

Jatiya Party activities against people's interests have crossed all limits, the student alliance leaders told the rally.

They also retterated their pledge that JP would not be allowed to contest the ensuing election "to the name o democratic rights".

Jatiya Party Chairman Ershad, from detention, is a candidate from five seats while most of other JP leaders in-

cluding ministers and MPs of his regime have also stood for the Feb 27 parliamentary polls

Expressing grave concern over free movement of the wanted Ministers and armed hoodlums of JP, the student leaders urged the government not to delay the trial of Ershad and his accomplices for their misdeed, wanton corruption and other offences.

The rally also called for hastening recovery of unauthorised arms, immediate shifting of Ershad and his wife Raushan, former Vice President Moudud Ahmed and former Home Minister Mahmudul Hasan to jail from internment.

The rally was addressed by **DUCSU GS Khairul Kabir** Khokon, Shah Alam, Shafi Ahmed, Nastrudozza, Bazlur Rashid Feroz and SM Kamal Hossain. "Stop your evil politics.

otherwise people will punish

you," said the DUCSU GS in a stern warning to the associates of the toppled President, particularly former Prime Minister Mizanur Rahman Chowd-

Shafi Ahmed said "We have no conflict with the caretaker government, but the administration is showing laxity in arresting the wanted ministers and in recovery of tilegal arms Nastrudozza urged the care-

taker government to identify the collaborators of Ershad hiding in the law enforcing agencies and the civil adminis-Kamal Hossain urged politi-

eal parties not to give shelter and cancel the nominations given to blacklisted JP men for contesting the parliamentary Earlier, APSU leaders and

activists paraded the university campus in a procession chanting slogans in support of their

Inu for national Govt

From A Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Jan 19: Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) leader Hasanul Hug Inu called upon the leaders of three alliances for finding out a solution to the problems of the Gulf war.

He was speaking as the chief guest at a election campaign rally here at Diamond

He reiterated his appeal for a national government and urged the alliances leader to participate Parliamentary election on alliances basis. Mr Inu said that the downfall of autocratic government of Ershad paved the way for democracy.

He asked the leaders of the alliances to place their recommendations to the Acting President for holding a peaceful election

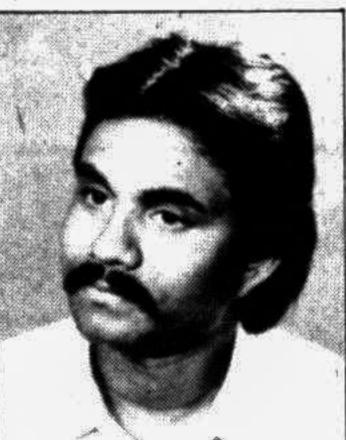
Presided over by Mahbubur Rahman Masum, the meeting was addressed among others, by Bidhan Krisna Sen, Abul Khair, Sarifuzzaman Jewel and Nuruddin Jahid.



An anti-American demonstration in Dhaka city on Saturday, organised by the Sramik Krishak Samajbadi Dal, demanded immediate withdrawal of US troops from Arab lands. -Star photo

Workshop on child health begins

A six-day workshop on child health, mothercare and nutrition began Saturday at the Press Institute of Bangladesh, reports BSS.



Matin's solo painting exhibition

The second solo painting exhibition by Abdul Matin will begin at the Soviet Cultural Centre today (Sunday).

Prof. Tajuddin Ahmed, Presidential Adviser for Food and Cultural Affairs, will inaugurate the exhibition at 4.30 pm.

Prof. Mohammad Muniruzzaman Miah, Vice-Chancellor of the Dhaka University and Mr. S. Smirnov, the Soviet Ambassador in Bangladesh will be special guests.

About 70 paintings will be exhibited. The exhibition will remain open from 10 am to 6 pm and continue through January 30, according to a press



KHULNA-Hectic electioneering has begun in the city with almost all buildings and their walls decorated with colourful writings seeking votes for different political -Star photo parties. Onlookers pass by these, without any comment.

Rajshahi coldest

Cold wave grips Dhaka

By Staff Correspondent

The weather over Bangladesh was one to four degree Celsius colder than the normal for the time as the night temperature fell further by one to three degree Celsius on Saturday.

Rajshahi and Mymensingh were the coldest Saturday as the mercury fell to seven degree Celstus. The Meteorological De-

partment says the wintry chill is likely to remain nearly unchanged till this (Sunday) morning. Met Office has forecast dry

weather with partly cloudy sky at places till Monday morning. Outlook for subsequent two

Dhaka

Comilla

Bogra

Rangpur

Dinajpur

Rajshahi

Khulna

Chittagong

City/town Temperature in Celsi

23.3

23.2

22.4

22.3

22.2

24.2

24.2

to experience bitter cold as the minimum temperature remained as low as 1) degree Celsius on Saturday . The max imum temperature recorded in the city was 25 degree Cel-

days : little change.

country.

The sun sets in Dhaka at 5-36 p.m. today (Sunday) and rises Monday at 6-45 a.m.

Temperature and humidity recorded in major cities and towns of Bangaldesh were:

days : no appreciable change.

Outlook for another five

On Saturday, the weather

Citizens of Dhaka continued

remained dry all over the

us	Humidity in per	rcentage
min	a.m.	6 p.m.
11	69	51
13	81	63
09.5	88	NA
11	88	63
08.4	77	54
08	85	63
08.4	77	44
07	80	65
09.4	NA	66
10.2	88	65
10.4		74

CIRDAP Seminar

By Staff Correspondent

The Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) will organize a seminar from January 20 to 24 on "Development of Modules for Training on Integrated Rural Approach to Development and Disaster Management in Bangladesh" in

collaboration with the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) of Nagoya, Japan.

Sixty participants will attend the 5-day seminar from various levels of local government. They include upazila chairman, upazila nirbahi officers, engineers and other officials of the four upazilas - Homna, Daudkandi, Sherpur and Basail. Resource persons from India, Bangladesh, Philippines and Japan are going to present a total of 14 papers related to the main theme.

The inaugural session will be chaired by the Director. CIRDAP, A.T.M. Shamsul Haque while the keynote address will be given by Prof. Hidehiko Sazanami, Director, UNCRD.

AZZA IRIGO PIESSO

চট্টগ্রাম ওয়াসা

পানিই জীবন, এর অপচয় করবেন না পানির বিল নিয়মিত পরিশোধ করুন

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

অত্র সংস্থার অধীনে নিম্নে বর্ণিত কাজের জন্য বাংলাদেশ ২৯১১ নং ফরমে সীলমোহরকুত দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে। দরপত্রসমূহ আগামী ২৭-১-৯১ ইং তারিখে বেলা ১.০০ টা পর্যন্ত গ্রহণ করা হইবে এবং একই দিন বেলা ১.৩০ টায় উপস্থিত দরপত্রদাতাদের সমূখে (যদি থাকেন) খোলা হইবে। কাজের ফর্ন ও অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী সংবলিত দরপত্র অত্র অফিস/অত্র কর্তৃপক্ষের নির্মাণ বিভাগ-২/গুদাম বিভাগ/ডিজাইন বিভাগ/মোহরা বিভাগ/হিসাব শাখা (অর্থ)/জনতা ব্যাংক, ওয়াসা শাখা দামপাড়া, চট্টগ্রাম হইতে অফিস চলাকালে নিম্নের ধার্যকৃত অফেরতযোগ্য নগদ মূল্যে পাওয়া যাইবে। জনতা ব্যাংক ও হিসাব শাখা (অর্থ) ব্যতিরেকে দরপত্র বিক্রয়কারী উল্লিখিত সকল অফিসে নির্ধারিত সময়ে দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হইবে। প্রত্যেক দরপত্রের সহিত উদ্ধৃত দরের ২.৫০% (আড়াই শতাংশ) বায়নার টাকা চেয়ারম্যান, ওয়াসা, চট্টগ্রাম অনুকূলে পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ভাফর্ট আকারে অবশ্যই সংযুক্ত থাকিতে হইবে। অন্যথায় দরপত্র বাতিল বলিয়া গন্য করা হইবে। দরপত্র খোলার তারিখে কোন দরপত্র বিক্রয় করা হইবে না। কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন বা সকল দরপত্র বাতিল করার অধিকার অত্র কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক সংরক্ষিত।

ক্রমিক নং	কাজের নাম	দরপত্রের মূল্য অফেরতযোগ্য	ঠিকাদারের যোগ্যতা
> 1	হালিশহর হাউজিং এস্টেটের 'আই' ব্লকে ২০০ এম, এম, ব্যাসের পাইপ লাইন স্থাপন।	৫০/ - টাকা	১৯৯০–১১ অর্থ বৎসরের নবায়নকৃত অত্র সংস্থার তালিকাতুক্ত সকল শ্রেণীর প্লাধিং ঠিকাদার।
ર ા	ও, আর, নিজাম রোড বাই লেন নং-১ এ ১০০ এম, এম ব্যাসের পাইপ লাইন স্থাপন।	৫০/ – টাকা	2

নিৰ্মাণ বিভাগ-১ उद्याना, हड़िद्याम ।